

THE BROAD AX

Published Weekly

In this city since July 15th, 1899, without missing one single issue, Republicans, Democrats, Catholics, Protestants, single Taxers, Priests, infidels or anyone else can have their say as long as their language is proper and responsibility is fixed.

The Broad Ax is a newspaper whose platform is broad enough for all, ever claiming the editorial right to speak its own mind.

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Locality.

"Some expert says that it takes fully fifteen minutes to shear a sheep by hand."

"Not if the operation is performed in Wall street."—Baltimore American.

Quite Different.

Miss Oldgirl (simpling)—That nice young man said I was quite a mural decoration of the occasion. Miss Pert—He meant you were a wallflower, all right.—Baltimore American.

Forgetful.

Caretaker—Sir Walter Scott spent a night in this room. 'Ere we 'ave a complete set of 'is works. Intelligent Sightseer—Left 'em be'ind, I suppose?—Passing Show.

She Didn't Understand.

"Galahad"—he began.
"Cut it out," interposed the young lady. "It's had form to talk about a girl you had."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

What is experience? A poor little hut constructed from the ruins of the palace of gold and marble called our illusions.

Cautious.

"I've discovered a system by which my employer could get all the work in his office done with half the force he employs now."

"Why don't you tell him about it and earn his undying gratitude?"

"I don't dare to. He might decide that I am one of the men he could do without."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Portugal's Big Diamond.

It is claimed for the Braganza, which formed part of the Portuguese crown jewels, that it is the biggest diamond in the world, weighing 1,800 carats. Some doubt exists, however, as to whether it is a real diamond, as no official testing can be authenticated. It was found in Brazil in 1741.—London Telegraph.

Night Scenes in Yokohama.

In most oriental countries sunset brings quiet to the streets and there is little night life. But on Theater street, Yokohama, 11 o'clock at night sees the great crowds leaving the movies, which are close together, and the resulting scene is one never to be forgotten. Humanity packed too close for comfort surges in an unbroken tide from one end of the street to the other. Add to this mass of many hued forms the taking down of the highly colored banners and you have a scene that makes the dropping of the big top at home look like a side show.

Sometimes the lights on the water produce an effect almost Venetian in charm, but the bulky canal boat lacks the artistic lines of the gondola, and the water sends forth a scent which might be called by a plainer name. The newspaper boy rushes through the narrow streets hurling the sheets to right and left as he runs and ringing the bells at his waist to announce his arrival.—Christian Herald.

Burdette and the Towel.

The story of how Bob Burdette began to write for publication is rather interesting. His wife was an invalid, and most of his verse and short stuff were written solely for her entertainment. One day he was talking to Frank Hutton, who later became postmaster general under Arthur. Hutton was then editing the Burlington Hawkeye. "Bob," said Hutton, "when you get through reading your stuff to your wife hand it over to me and I'll print it."

One of the first things he turned over was his famous ode to the printing office towel. This was part of it:

Over and under was blacker than thunder
And daily put on a more inkier hue
Until one windy morning without any warning
It fell on the floor and was broken in two.

—Charles B. Lewis (M. Quad) in New York Sun.

DIG UP BIG TOOTH OF PREHISTORIC MASTODON

Well Preserved, Though Found Far Below Surface of the Ground.

Cottonwood Falls, Kan.—A big tooth which is supposed to have come from the jaw of some mastodon of prehistoric ages, has been unearthed by T. E. Nichols of this city by men employed in making a deep cut on Diamond creek, a mile and a half northeast of Elmdale. The trench had been sunk to a depth of fifty-three feet and had passed through an eight foot gravel strata when the big tooth was found. A soapstone formation was encountered just beneath it.

The tooth is well preserved. It weighs over three pounds, measures a foot and three inches in circumference around its base and is three inches in height from its base to the points of the tooth. It is oblong in shape, its width being three and a half inches. There are six flanges or points to the tooth, which extend upward in regular pairs. The tooth has two large roots, there being about three or four inches of the root intact, but the lower parts are broken off. It is believed the tooth belonged to a carnivorous, or flesh eating, animal because of the flanges or sharp points.

After finding the tooth another bone only a few feet away was uncovered by another workman. It is a large flat, round shaped bone, which resembles a kneecap.

FAITHFUL DOG'S BARKING CALLS FATHER TO CHILD

Little One, Playing In Pasture, Where It Strayed, Kicked by Horses.

Wheatland, Wyo.—G. F. Harold's little son, Alvin, two and a half years old, was kicked in the head by a horse the other day, his skull was fractured and other severe wounds, seemingly sufficient to cause death, were sustained.

The father's attention was called to the child by the frantic barking of the farm dog, and upon investigating he found that the dog was guarding the insensible form of the little boy from a bunch of horses in the pasture where the little fellow had wandered in his play.

The child's forehead was crushed, the nose broken and the eye laid open by the flesh being all torn from it. As he was still alive he was rushed to a hospital with all possible speed. The surgeon performed a very delicate operation, lifting the broken bones into position and sewing the torn skin around the eye back into place, and at present writing the little fellow is getting along nicely and gives promise of complete recovery.

That he was not instantly killed is probably due to the fact that the horse's hoof struck a glancing blow, and that he lives at all is because there was a skillful surgeon available.

SISTERS EARN \$2,400.

Set New Agricultural Record Raising Cabbages.

Greensburg, Pa.—Four Westmoreland county young women, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Smith, near Ruffsdale, have established a new agricultural record in the yield and profits to be derived from a two acre plot of cabbage.

The Misses Smith, the eldest of whom is eighteen, now have a bank account of \$900, with accounts due from Pittsburgh commission men amounting to \$900, and a quarter of their cabbage yet remains to be cut and marketed. Buyers estimate the value of the entire field at about \$2,400.

Early last spring Smith turned the two acre plot over to his daughters, telling them to make any use of it they desired. The girls, after closely scanning the market reports for weeks, decided to grow cabbages. They set about 18,000 plants.

KILL WHITE FACED IBIS.

Kansas Hunters Were Puzzled, but Professor Solved the Problem.

Topeka, Kan.—A party of hunters were near Stafford when a long legged bird, which looked like a crane and flew like a duck, suddenly rose and started toward Oklahoma.

Six guns spoke at the same time. The bird gave up the southern trip. The men did not know what they had killed. They guessed everything from a mud hen to a wild turkey.

George Stansfield made a secret trip to Lawrence and conferred with some of the professors. They labeled the kill a white faced glossy ibis, a species of waterfowl very rare in Kansas. The coloring is very delicate and changes continually. It is one of the snipe family, but is unfit for food.

Long Trip of Bible.

Mays Landing, N. J.—It will take fifty years of traveling, during which time 100,000 miles will be covered, for a "traveling Bible," now in the lodge quarters of P. O. S. of A. camp, No. 106, to fulfill its mission. The Bible is to be taken from one camp to another in each county until every county in the state has been covered, then it will go to every camp in each county, remaining three weeks with each.

MAY FLY TO PARIS

Transatlantic Aeroplane Line Is Possible, Says Woodhouse.

OUR AIR MEN EFFICIENT.

Great Britain Is Spending \$250,000,000 In Military Aeronautics This Year—In Half a Dozen Countries Number of Aviators Ranges Between 2,000 and 10,000.

New York.—"A transatlantic aeroplane line is now quite possible owing to improved motors," Henry Woodhouse, member of the board of governors of the Aero club, told 250 members of the Rotary club here.

"The aspect of things in aeronautics," he said, "has been changed. Nowadays the motor can outlast the aviator. Aeroplanes equipped with from two to six motors and carrying up to thirty people can be built for commercial purposes. The largest aeroplane at present has a carrying capacity of fifteen tons, but plans are ready for an aeroplane capable of lifting thirty tons. American aeroplanes and motors are so efficient that a flight of over a thousand miles a day is possible.

"There are 25,000 aeroplanes in use in the world, and the reason why there are not more is that they cannot be supplied fast enough to replace those that are put out of action or worn out. "Great Britain is spending \$250,000,000 in military aeronautics this year. Five hundred thousand people are producing and operating aircraft and aeronautic supplies. The American aeronautic industry has orders and pending contracts amounting to \$50,000,000.

"In half a dozen countries the number of aviators ranges between 2,000 and 10,000. The United States army and navy have together about a hundred. The European countries have thousands of observation balloons and hundreds of dirigibles. The United States army and navy together have only four observation balloons ordered and one small dirigible."

MAN FIGHTS JELLYFISH.

Swimmer Sent to a Hospital After a Life and Death Struggle.

Santa Barbara, Cal.—G. H. Wilson was sent to the Cottage hospital here in a critical condition recently. He had a life and death struggle with a huge jellyfish. Four hundred feet from shore, off Serena, Wilson was suddenly attacked.

He saw before him what he later said looked like a huge sheet of butter and eggs. Suddenly the strips of yellow and white began to separate from the mass and extend toward him. He turned to swim out of reach when the creature threw its tentacles about him, and the mad fight was on. In the struggle Wilson broke the mass into fragments, but reached the shore exhausted and his face and shoulders stinging as though from scalds.

At the hospital it was said that the patient would recover. His pain at times was so intense that morphine had to be administered. His shoulders and face resemble one mass of poison oak burns.

HE'S A GIANT SUPERMAN.

Never Used Meat, Pepper, Alcohol, Tea, Tobacco—Still Single.

Clinton, Mo.—Dusty and travel worn, but with his long strides retaining the vigor of all his eighteen years of backwoods life, Clarence Barton trudged into town after covering 130 miles from Turner, Mo. He came in the heat and dust over the miles of hills afoot to attend the Missouri conferences of the Seventh Day Adventists.

And this youth has lived a strange life in the very modern and up to date state of Missouri. In all his eighteen years he never tasted a mouthful of meat. Never has a drink of tea or coffee passed his lips. His meager fare of daily food has never been seasoned with pepper. He never has tasted a drop of alcohol in any form and does not know the tang of tobacco smoke. And he is a perfect specimen—a young backwoods giant. Barton excelled in all the sports of the camp.

SHAD SIGN OF MILD WINTER.

Caught In Lower Hudson For First Time In Thirty Years.

Dobbs Ferry, N. Y.—Shad were caught in the Hudson river for the first time in thirty years at this season of the year. The fishing experts say that it is an infallible sign of an open winter.

John H. Lange, professional fisherman, caught the shad in the gill nets he had set in the running tideway for striped bass. Lavinas D. Hill, a recognized authority on fishing, said that shad usually went south to warmer waters in the fall, and when caught in the lower Hudson thirty years ago the weather was so mild that the river was open for navigation all through the winter.

Busy Man Offers \$1,000 For Wife.

New York.—Too busy to play the role of suitor himself, Albert F. Shore, a business man, has commissioned a friend to find him a wife. If the friend succeeds before Christmas in discovering a girl about twenty-four years old, either blond or brunette, but studious and not a social butterfly, he will receive \$1,000. And if he has not succeeded at that time then any person may earn the \$1,000 by producing a suitable bride. Shore is thirty-four years old. He is of medium height, dark complexion and dark curly hair.

Teaching Birds Tricks.

A professor of natural history refutes the statement so frequently made that teaching a bird to draw water needs apparatus and that the learning is cruelty to the bird.

"The following experience of mine," he says, "proves that it is not so by any means. We bought a young bird last January, so wild that on our approach it flew madly round the cage. We hung the cage low and by patience, after the bird got used to our proximity, induced it to take groundsel, first held at stem's length, then between the fingers, finally from the lips. We used to let him out freely, and he would perch on the loaf next me at breakfast. His perch projected through the wires, and here was his favorite seat when at liberty. Then I tried hanging a bit of groundsel by a short string to the projecting stick. After inspection he pulled it up with his beak. On lengthening the string with a fresh bit of his preferred weed I had the pleasure and interest of seeing him pull up the string with his beak till the flower head was within reach, catching the slack after each pull with one foot and then transferring it to the other, so that the coils were quite neat."—London Globe.

Water Pressure.

As early as 1648 a Frenchman of science named Pascal experimented with pressures applied to liquids and discovered the following law: A pressure applied to any part of the surface of a liquid is transmitted unchanged in amount in every direction through the liquid.

Perhaps the most familiar application of Pascal's law is the hydraulic press. In that machine a pump having a small piston drives water into a large cylinder and thereby forces upward a large piston, which compresses whatever is placed between the platform of the piston and the fixed crossbeam at the top of the press. If the area of the larger piston is 100 times that of the smaller a downward force of one pound exerted on the smaller piston will create an upward force of 100 pounds upon the larger piston.

Home Ground Flour.

Grinding wheat to make flour may be done at home as easily as the grinding of coffee. Thus a family may have whole wheat flour, freshly ground, a thing that is usually difficult to obtain. The New York Medical Journal advises its readers to buy their wheat from seedsmen rather than from grocers or feed stores because it will be cheaper and more efficient. The grinder can be used also for cracking wheat, corn, barley, oats, rye and other grains for use as breakfast cereals. And the cereals will need chewing, which will not only strengthen the muscles of the chews' jaws, but will keep their teeth from decay—that is, if they begin as children.

Homemade cereals need long cooking, so a fireless cooker is almost indispensable.

Greek Fire Gunpowder?

M. Zenghelis told the Academie des Sciences in Paris recently that he had been studying the "Greek fire" used in war by the Byzantines. The descriptions of this say that it was hurled from a copper tube with a sound like thunder and with a great cloud of smoke. From this he concluded that the Byzantine Greeks had real cannon in which they used explosive mixtures with nitrate as a base. Therefore the honor of the discovery of gunpowder must be given to the engineer Callinicus of Heliopolis, who first used it, destroying a Saracen fleet with it in 670 A. D.

The Silent Moon.

Dead silence reigns on the moon. A thousand cannons might be fired and a thousand drums beaten upon that airless world, but no sound could come from them. Lips might quiver and tongues essay to speak, but no action of theirs could break the utter silence of the lunar scene.

Roundabout Way.

"I see where an aviator contrived to have the last word with his wife."
"How on earth did he do it?"
"He didn't exactly do it on earth."
"No?"
"He rose 1,000 feet in the air and dropped her a message."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

The Experienced Husband.

"She threatens to sue for divorce."
"What's he say to that?"
"Nothing. When their quarrels get to that point he always keeps still. He's learned from experience that the next move will be a flood of tears."—Detroit Free Press.

Two Sorrows.

The sorrow of the woman who cries out her grief on the kitchen towel somehow seems more sincere than that of the woman who puts on a pretty gown, arranges the sofa cushions and turns the lights low before she begins.—Exchange.

Fussy.

Bank Manager—Now please understand, Miss Jones, you must make the books balance. Miss Jones—Oh, Mr. Brown, how fussy you are!—London Punch.

Sound and Sound.

"That young Hercules over there is a great musical composer."
"A sound mind in a sound body, eh?"—St. Louis Star.

It is generally more profitable to reckon up our defects than to boast of our attainments.—Carlyle.

Haiti's Grotesque Army.

When the late President Lacombe of Haiti set about to reduce the size of his army a few years ago many of the generals whom he mustered out of the service were put to breaking rock on the street. At one time there were more officers than men in the Haitian army, according to apparently authentic statements. In former times the pay of a Haitian soldier was small at best, nothing at worst and at all times insufficient to keep the warrior fed decently. The days for loading coffee on departing ships were great days in Haiti. They were days when the army got a square meal, thanks to the stevedore wages which the men were able to earn, says the National Geographic Magazine. The army officers of Haiti were as fond of gold lace as a mountain girl of bright colors. Small wonder, then, that the regalia of a field marshal was everywhere in evidence. Feeding the Haitian armies in the days before the American "big brother" movement was not a difficult job. Garrison rations consisted of a sugar cane stalk two or three feet long and whatever else the soldier could beg, borrow or steal.

Rocking Chairs.

Rocking chairs are an American institution, although they are to be found today pretty much all over the civilized world. In England they are invariably referred to as "American rockers," and indeed this application is not confined to that country. Here and there on the continent you will hear of them in the same category. Authorities are widely at variance as to the time and place of the very first rocker. But that the first one was turned out more than 200 years ago there is little room for doubt. It is fair to assume that it was the invention of a New Englander who loved his ease. He probably invented it to offset the discomforts of the severely straight backed chairs of our early colonial days.—Exchange.

Roumanian Peasant Diversions.

"Many hands make light work" is a proverb of the Roumanian peasant often put into practice. Almost every night there is a neighborhood gathering like the old fashioned apple cutting or apple butter boiling in early American rural history. The houses have their turns at these parties, and there is always a kettle of cornmeal mush and baked pumpkin and potatoes and popcorn ready for the occasion. All hands join in the evening program of combing, carding and spinning the household supply of wool or flax, while the neighborhood gossip passes current among the elders and occasional words of love or childish jest among the more youthful members of the party.—National Geographic Magazine.

Donkeys Are Haiti's Food Trains.

Nearly all the produce for the feeding of the population of Port au Prince, Haiti, a city of some 60,000 people, is brought in on the backs of donkeys. The public squares are converted into open air market places, and here the buying and selling goes on from early morning until 4 or 5 o'clock in the afternoon, when the caravans begin their toilsome journey homeward. Situated in a region famous for its fine fish, among them the delectable and plentiful "red snapper," the Haitians eat quantities of salt cod imported from Massachusetts waters. And the quality of this imported staple is such as would not find favor in American markets.—National Geographic Magazine.

First "Outsiders."

Until the nomination of Franklin Pierce for the presidency of the United States the word "outsider" was unknown. The committee on credentials came in to make its report and could not get into the hall because of the crowd of people who were not members of the convention. The chairman of the convention asked if the chairman of the committee was ready to report, and the chairman answered, "Yes, Mr. Chairman, but the committee is unable to get inside on account of the crowd and the pressure of the outsiders." The newspaper reporters took up the word and used it.

Pilloried.

"You druggists have to stand for a good many jokes."
"Yes."
"A drug store is sometimes facetiously alluded to as a pillory."
"About right, too," said the druggist. "Keeps you penned up most of the time."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Reassuring.

Irate Gentleman (to his gardener)—What do you mean, sir, by telling people in the village that I'm a stingy master? Gardener—No fear o' me a-doin' the likes o' that, guv'nor. I allus keeps my thoughts to myself.—London Punch.

Transmutation.

"Do you think you can turn the baser metals into gold?"
"Undoubtedly—if you can guess which way the steel market is going."—Washington Star.

Turn About.

Stella—When you are engaged you tell him that he must economize. Bella—And after you are married he tells you that you must.—Puck.

Finished.

"Jack got through college in three years."
"What of it? I got through in one."—Harvard Lampoon.

It is better to find excuses for others than for ourselves.

Unique Colony.

Close by the great rock of Gibraltar is Catlin bay, where is to be found a colony so queer that it stands out almost as a tribe distinct in itself. Many generations ago during a storm a detachment of Genoese fishermen put into a sheltered spot and so escaped the fury of the sea. In the boats, and they remained there, were many women, and they came so enamored of the spot that huts were built, and they remained. Hundreds of years have passed, and the little tribe still lingers on. The government has given them a grant of land, and a village now clusters in the shelter of the bay. Strangest of all, it is said the population dare not increase for fear it will overstep its boundary and marriage is allowed only in rotation. No marriage, so it is claimed, may take place in the village until a way has been made for it by a death. The people are squat and ugly and look amazingly like one another. It is a little colony of cousins, dwelling apart in the shadow of a great rock and going down to the sea in ships to earn a hard won livelihood.—Exchange.

Weakness of the Pilchard.

Very similar to the herring, a quaint method of distinguishing the pilchard exists in Cornwall, the home of the pilchard fisheries. The difference between the fish lies in their center of gravity, for if one holds a pilchard by the back fin it will remain horizontal, while a herring tips downward. One seldom sees the fish in the London markets, however, and in order to gain its due share of appreciation the pilchard has to journey to Italy and the Mediterranean. Many factories exist in southern England for the express purpose of salting and packing the fish in tins for exportation, the method used being similar to that used for sardines. Pilchards, too, resemble sardines, though their flavor is somewhat stronger. Years ago an attempt was made to smoke pilchards—like herrings—for home consumption, but the experiment proved useless, for the weight of the body broke the neck and the fish fell into the fires.—London Answer.

Vegetable Lamb.

One of the most remarkable natural fetiches in the world is the Chinese kouchal, called by some people "the vegetable lamb." It is regarded by the natives of China as something supernatural. They believe it to be part vegetable and part animal. The plant certainly bears a resemblance to an animal, although it might be taken for a pig as readily as a lamb. Kouchal is composed principally of the plant part known as rhizome and springs from seed. After attaining its height roots and tendrils spring from the fiber and grow downward until they enter the earth. It is this peculiar formation which has caused it to be regarded with so much awe. The Chinese claim that after it has reached its full size it ceases to be vegetable and turns animal, feeding upon its tender shoots of plants which grow near it.

It Depends on the Dog.

Two Broadway business men met before a bar. They were good friends. "I'm worried a little," said one. "My chauffeur ran over a dog today and killed it."

"Oh, I wouldn't worry about a little thing like that," said the other. "The dog probably got in the way. These dogs are a pest."

"But it was your dog."
"What?" came from the second. "My dog? I'm sorry, but that will cost me \$100. That chauffeur of yours is so careless. I insist on the hundred, understand."—New York Telegraph.

So 'Twould.

"How would you like to take a trip in a submarine?"
"I shouldn't care for that," replied the society bud.

"Why not?"
"Oh, dear! Must I really tell you? An ocean voyage would be frightfully boring, you know, if there were no place to dawdle."—Birmingham Age Herald.

Rack Rents.

A "rack rent" is a rent that is equivalent to the full net annual value of the real property out of which it issues or approximately so." By statute in England today rack rent is defined as "not less than two-thirds of the full net annual value of the lands out of which it arises."

Name of the Collie.

The collie's name appears to be shrouded in mystery, but there seems to be a fairly reasonable foundation for supposing that it is from "coll" or "collar," on account of the broad white mark round the neck which is seen in the majority of these dogs.—Exchange.

Ancient Candles.

Candles used by the Romans were composed of string surrounded by either wax or pitch. Splinters of wood covered with fat were used by the English poorer classes about 1300.

What the Trouble Was.

Mills—I notice that you and Brownley don't speak? Grimm—Well, we had a few words over money, that's all. Mills—Oh, I suppose he owes you some? Grimm—No; he wanted to.

The Minimum.

Mrs. Hoover—Could you give me a little money, dear? Mr. Hoover—Certainly, darling. About how little? Exchange.

Without the spiritual world the material world is a disheartening scene.—Joubert.